

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A flat display apparatus comprising

a main body unit with a display screen,

a stand unit, [[and]]

a rotation mechanism for rotating the main body unit horizontally with respect to the stand unit,

the rotation mechanism further comprising a torque-limiting gear, wherein the transmission of a rotation load is reduced as an upper gear and a lower gear of the torque-limiting gear frictionally slide upon one another,

wherein the torque-limiting gear includes a gear base to which the upper gear is secured, and wherein the lower gear is disposed between the gear base and the upper gear, wherein the gear base has a friction member disposed on the surface thereof facing the lower gear, and a resilient member is disposed between the upper and lower gears, the resilient member being adapted to press the lower gear against the friction member such that the lower gear and the gear base frictionally slide upon one another to reduce the transmission of a rotation load, and

wherein the rotation mechanism is adapted to reduce the transmission of a rotation load upon application of a rotation load exceeding a certain level.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The flat display apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the rotation mechanism comprises two or more gears, of which two or more gears are torque-limiting gears that are adapted to reduce the transmission of a rotation load upon application of a rotation load exceeding a certain level.

17. (Previously Presented) The flat display apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the torque-limiting gears include an upper gear and a lower gear, wherein the upper and lower gears are adapted to reduce the transmission of a rotation load by frictionally slide upon one another upon application of a rotation load exceeding a certain level.

18. (Previously Presented) The flat display apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the torque-limiting gears include a gear base, an upper gear secured to the gear base, and a lower gear disposed between the gear base and the upper gear, wherein the gear base has a friction member disposed on the surface thereof facing the lower gear, and wherein a resilient member is disposed between the upper and lower gears, the resilient member being adapted to press the lower gear against the friction member such that the lower gear and the gear base frictionally slide upon one another to reduce the transmission of a rotation load.

19. (Previously Presented) The flat display apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the rotation mechanism includes a drive motor and is capable of automatic rotation.

20. (Original) The flat display apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising means for receiving remote operation, wherein the rotation of the rotation mechanism is controlled by remote operation.

21. (Previously Presented) The flat display apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the rotation mechanism includes a position sensor and is capable of recognizing its own rotation position.

22. (Currently Amended) The flat display apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the rotation mechanism is adapted to reduce the speed of rotation between a a ~~[[the]]~~ motor and the gears or between the gears, ~~the rotation mechanism further comprising a torque-limiting gear, wherein the transmission of a rotation load is reduced as an upper gear and a lower gear of the torque-limiting gear frictionally slide upon one another.~~

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The flat display apparatus according to claim 14~~[[2]]~~, wherein the display screen includes a liquid crystal display, a plasma display, or an EL display.